

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ANKARA 08293 071752Z

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ACTION SS-25

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O R 071656Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1286

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOISIA

S E C R E T ANKARA 8293

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY

SUBJ: FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL'S REPLY TO THE SECRETARY'S ORAL MESSAGE

1. THE TRANSLATED AND "CLEARED" TEXT OF FONMIN CAGLAYANGIL'S RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY'S ORAL MESSAGE (STATE 259585) WAS HANDED TO US LATE FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7. IT SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH MY EARLIER REPORT (ANKARA 8195) OF CAGLAYANGIL'S REMARKS AT THE TIME I BROUGHT THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE TO HIM.

BEGIN TEXT:

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE DELIVERED TO ME BY AMBASSADOR MACOMBER. WITHOUT ELABORATING ON THE SPECIFIC POINTS OF YOUR MESSAGE, I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS MY VIEWS CONCERNING THE SUBSTANCE OF IT.

THE CYPRUS QUESTION IS A SERIOUS MATTER. PARTIES WILL HAVE NOTHING TO GAIN BY MISLEADING ONE ANOTHER OR BY RESORTING TO DELAYING TACTICS. THE GREEK AND THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE APPEAR TO CONTINUE TO BE UNREALISTIC AMW TO RESORT TO DELAYING TACTICS. WE HAVE TOLD THEM AND OUR FRIENDS AS WELL, AS YOU KNOW, A NUMBER OF TIMES THAT WE ARE NOT IN A POSITION TO DECLARE THAT WE ARE READY TO GIVE AWAY TERRITORY. ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED AND THOSE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ANKARA 08293 071752Z

WHO WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO A SOLUTION IN CYPRUS SHOULD

VERY WELL APPRECIATE, HOW DIFFICULT IT HAD BEEN FOR US TO DECIDE TO INCLUDE TERRITORIAL ASPECTS OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION TO THE CONTEXT OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. AT THE PRESENT STAGE, WE ARE READY TO NEGOTIATE THE CYPRUS QUESTION, FREE FROM ANY PRE-CONDITIONS, ON AN AGENDA OF TWO ITEMS:

(1) BI-ZONAL FEDERATION, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WITH LIMITED POWERS, EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMUNITIES TO THIS GOVERNMENT.

(2) OTHER ASPECTS OF THE CYPRUS QUESTION INCLUDING TERRITORIAL MATTERS.

THERE IS NOTHING ELSE WE CAN DO BEYOND THIS.

THE GREEK AND THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE ARE FREE TO PUT FORWARD THEIR CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THEY MAY ACCEPT THE BI-ZONAL FEDERATION, THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT WITH LIMITED POWERS AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF THE TWO COMMUNITIES IN THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. IT IS ONLY AT THIS STAGE THAT MATTERS RELATING TO BORDER REARRANGEMENTS MAY BE DELT WITH, DURING INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS. IF THEY CAN PUT FORWARD REASONABLE PROPOSALS IN THIS RESPECT, THEN IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO STUDY THEM AND TO DISCUSS THEM AT THE TALKS.

WE HAVE BEEN REPEATING THIS VIEW TO ALL OUR FRIENDS AND TO THEM AS WELL. BUT YET, TO INSIST TO KNOW, PRIOR TO NEGOTIATIONS, THE PERCENTAGE OF TERRITORY THAT TURKISH SIDE MIGHT CONSIDER TO GIVE UP OR TO ASK FOR A MAP ON THAT SUBJECT, CAN ONLY BRING DEADLOCK.

TURKEY, AS SHE HAS ALWAYS BEEN, IS FAVORING THE RESUMPTION OF THE INTER-COMMUNAL TALKS ON A REALISTIC BASIS IN ORDER TO REACH A PEACEFUL SOLUTION AT AN EARLY TIME. END TEXT.

2. COMMENT: COMPARISON OF THE FOREGOING WITH THE REMARKS REPORTED IN ANKARA 8195 INDICATES THAT THE "CLEARED" RESPONSE HAS BEEN SMOOTHED AND POLISHED, AND IS SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ANKARA 08293 071752Z

LARGELY DEVOID OF THE EXASPERATION DISPLAYED IN CAGLAYANGIL'S INITIAL REACTION TO THE SECRETARY'S MESSAGE. THE ESSENTIALS, HOWEVER, REMAIN PRETTY MUCH THE SAME.

3. I REGARD THE KEY LANGUAGE AS BEGINNING WITH THE WORDS, "AT THE PRESENT STAGE, WE ARE READY TO NEGOTIATE THE CYPRUS QUESTION, FREE FROM ANY PRE-CONDITIONS..." AND ENDING A NUMBER OF LINES LATER WITH THE WORDS, "...THEN

IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO STUDY THEM AND TO DISCUSS THEM AT THE TALKS." THIS IS CERTAINLY GUARDED LANGUAGE, BUT I BELIEVE A CASE SHOULD NOW BE MADE WITH THE GREEKS THAT IT IS ENOUGH TO MERIT THEIR GOING TO THE TABLE -- WHICH IS THE ONLY PLACE, WE THINK, WHERE THE TURKS' POSITION CAN BE PROBED AND DEVELOPED FURTHER.

4. SECRETARY KISSINGER IS QUOTED TODAY IN THE LOCAL PRESS AS SAYING THE TURKS HAVE MOVED BUT NOT ENOUGH TO GET THE TALKS GOING. I WOULD NOW HOPE, HOWEVER, WE COULD TAKE THE POSITION THAT THE "FREE FROM ANY PRE-CONDITIONS" STATEMENT ADVANCES THE TURKS' POSITION TO THE POINT WHERE THE TALKS SHOULD BEGIN.

MACOMBER

SECRET

NNN

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